Desert Storm, Operation:

see PERSIAN GULF WAR.

Desert Shield, Operation:

see PERSIAN GULF WAR.

Kuwait

Kuwait is an oil-rich Arab country in the northeastern corner of the Arabian Peninsula at the head of the Persian Gulf. A British protectorate from 1899, it became independent in 1961. On Aug. 2, 1990, Kuwait was occupied by Iraqi forces, which remained there until expelled in the PERSIAN GULF WAR of 1991.

Kuwait is bordered on the north and west by Iraq, on the east by the Persian Gulf, and on the south by Saudi Arabia. It ranks third in the Middle East in proven oil reserves (after Saudi Arabia and Iraq), and was a founding member of the ORGANIZATION OF PETROLEUM EXPORTING COUNTRIES (OPEC). Its name is derived from kut, the Arabic word for fort. The capital city, Kuwait, is located on an inlet of the Persian Gulf.

LAND AND PEOPLE

Kuwait is a virtually flat desert; the highest point is a hill in the south rising to 299 m (981 ft). Of its few oases Al-Jahrah is the largest. Nine offshore islands are included in the national territory, but only one, Failaka, is inhabited. Most of the nation lies below an elevation of 200 m (656 ft). The red desert soils do not favor agriculture. The average daily temperature is 33 deg C (91 deg F), with maxima of 52 deg C (126 deg F). Rainfall ranges from 25 to 175 mm (1 to 7 in) annually, falling mostly in the winter months when cyclones occur. Fierce dust storms, called kaus, may last several days in winter. Most vegetation consists of low bushes and scrub; the marshy coastal areas support halophytic, or salt-loving, plants. Less than 9% of the land is arable, and most water is obtained through desalination.

Kuwaiti society is composed of five strata: the ruling family, old Kuwaiti merchant families, former Bedouins who became city dwellers, Arabs from other countries who obtained citizenship, and foreigners. Arabic is the official language, although many people speak English. Muslims comprise 90% of the population and Christians 8%.

Kuwait has one of the highest per-capita incomes in the world. Prior to the Iraqi invasion Kuwaiti citizens made up less than 40% of the population and less than 20% of the labor force. Non-Kuwaitis--mostly Palestinians, Egyptians, and South Asians--enjoyed most of the welfare benefits of Kuwaiti citizens; the vote was restricted to about 65,000 Kuwaiti males living in Kuwait before 1920 and their descendants.

Kuwait's 1992 population was less than half its prewar size, and the government planned to limit foreigners to less than 50% of the total population. Nearly 400,000 Palestinians were expelled and most Sudanese and Yemenis (groups accused of cooperating with Iraq) were refused employment. Most of the hundreds of thousands of foreign workers who fled the country after the Iraqi invasion were not expected to return, and at least one-third of all Kuwaitis remained outside the country in mid-1992.

ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

The economy of modern Kuwait is based almost totally on petroleum. By law, 10% of all petroleum revenues have been deposited in a special reserve fund to provide for the time when oil reserves are exhausted. During the occupation much of Kuwait's wealth was shipped to Iraq, although the Kuwaiti government-in-exile controlled its substantial overseas assets.

Limited oil exports resumed in July. The country was expected to reach pre-invasion oil production levels by the end of 1992, but it was estimated that it would take two to five years to restore the economy to its prewar level. To stimulate private investment, the government paid off household debts, increased government salaries, and compensated for war damages. This spending and the costs of the war reduced Kuwait's foreign assets from $100 billion in 1990 to $40 billion in 1992.

HISTORY AND GOVERNMENT

The Sabah dynasty was established in 1756 after Arab tribes settled the area. Kuwait was nominally a province in the Ottoman Empire, but the sheikh received British protection in 1899 when the Turks threatened actual control. Kuwait achieved independence in 1961, but when Iraq claimed the area, Kuwait again received a British pledge of protection.

Under the 1963 constitution, executive power is vested in the emir and exercised by a council of ministers. Sheikh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah became emir in 1977. The legislature was suspended from 1976 to 1981 and again in 1986; an interim council without legislative powers was elected in June 1990. In the 1980s, Kuwait was subject to

terrorist attacks by Shiite Muslim extremists, including a 1985 attempt to assassinate the emir. Kuwait supported Iraq against Iran in the IRAN-IRAQ WAR (1980-88).

On Aug. 2, 1990, after a dispute over oil, money, and boundaries, Iraq occupied Kuwait, a move condemned by the world community. On Jan. 16, 1991, when international diplomatic efforts and sanctions failed to force Iraq to withdraw, a 28-member coalition under U. S. field command launched the PERSIAN GULF WAR, recapturing Kuwait on February 26. The emir returned on March 14 and imposed martial law until June 26. The advisory National council created in 1990 reconvened on July 9. Later that year Kuwait and the United States signed a ten-year security pact. In the parliamentary elections of October 1992 the narrowly defined electorate (only 13% of Kuwaiti nationals, and no women, are eligible to vote) elected the first opposition majority in Kuwait's history. Candidates calling for democratic reform won 31 of 50 seats.

Ira M. Sheskin

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Schwarzkopf, H. Norman

United States Army General H. Norman Schwarzkopf, born Trenton, N.J., Aug. 22, 1934, was the commander of the U.S.-led coalition of land, sea, and air forces that won decisive victory in the PERSIAN GULF WAR in 1991.

Schwarzkopf graduated from the United States Military Academy in 1956 and became an infantry second lieutenant. His father, Herbert Norman Schwarzkopf, was also a West Point graduate. The senior Schwarzkopf gave his name to his son, but disliking the name Herbert, gave him only the letter H. The senior Schwarzkopf became superintendent of the New Jersey State Police and was the chief investigator in the kidnapping case of Charles Lindbergh's son. He later (1942-48) went to Iran, where he helped establish the Shah's police force. At the age of 12, young Norman lived in Tehran with his father.

Schwarzkopf in 1964 received a master's degree from the University of Southern California, where he specialized in guided missile engineering. He married Brenda Holsinger on July 6, 1968.

He served two tours in Vietnam and was decorated three times with the Silver Star. In May 1970, he crossed a minefield to rescue a soldier who had been wounded. He returned to the United States in 1970 as a lieutenant colonel.

Schwarzkopf was later military assistant in the office of the assistant secretary of the Army in Washington, D.C. (1973-74); deputy commander of the 172d Infantry Brigade, Fort Richardson, Alaska (1974-76); commander of the 1st Brigade, 9th Infantry Division, Fort Lewis, Washington (1976-78); and deputy director for plans of the U.S. Pacific Command, Camp Smith, Hawaii (1978-80). He was assistant division commander, 8th Infantry Division, U.S. Army Europe (1980-82); deputy director of military personnel management and deputy chief of staff personnel (1982-83); commanding general of the 24th Infantry Division and Fort Stewart, Georgia (1983-85).

Schwarzkopf was the deputy commander of U.S. forces in the Grenada operation in 1983. He later served with the Department of the Army (1985-86); as commanding general of I Corps at Fort Lewis, Wash. (1986-87); and served another tour with the Department of the Army (1987-88). Later in 1988, he became commander in chief of the U.S. Central Command, then headquartered at MacDill AFB, Florida. The Central Command was involved with U.S. military concerns in nations in the Middle East, Africa, and the Persian Gulf. During 1988, Schwarzkopf received his fourth star as general.

As commander in chief of the U.S.-led coalition forces sent to Saudi Arabia as part of Operation Desert Shield, following the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait in August 1990, General Schwarzkopf coordinated the armed forces of the many nations opposed to the expansionism of Iraqi ruler Saddam HUSSEIN. He played a key role in the rapid and decisive defeat of Iraqi forces in early 1991 in Operation Desert Storm.

In addition to the Silver Star, General Schwarzkopf holds the Distinguished Service Medal with oak leaf cluster, the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star with three oak leaf clusters, the Purple Heart with oak leaf cluster, the Combat Infantryman badge, Master Parachutist badge, and others.

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Aqaba, Gulf of

{ah'-kah-bah}

The Gulf of Aqaba is a narrow arm of the Red Sea extending northeast between Saudi Arabia and the Sinai Peninsula. It is approximately 160 km (100 mi) long and 19-27 km (12-17 mi) wide. At the head of the gulf are Aqaba and ELAT. Aqaba is Jordan's only seaport, and Elat is Israel's only outlet to the Red Sea. After Iraq's August 1990 invasion of Kuwait, the United States began a naval blockade of Iraq's outlets to the sea. The government of Jordan was notified that the blockade would include the port of Aqaba if Jordan allowed goods to move to or from Iraq from that port via land transport.

To Whom it May Concern;

This is a copy of the news article that the United States Air Force sent to the Wave when Kevin graduated from basic training... They send these articles to the hometown that the Airman are from..

Kevin joined the Air Force in 1986 and has been serving for Eleven years. After Basic training he was stationed at Nellis Air Force Base in LasVegas for about four years and then he was transfered to Hill Air Force Base were he was deployed from there to the Middle East for Desert Shield and for the entire Gulf War... He has just recently been transfered to Sheperd Air Force Base in Texas...

Kevin's home was in Midway, utah from the time he was in fourth grade up until he joined the Air Force... Even though Kevin is transfered from One Air Force Base to another Base; the Air Force considers his home town address to be his permanent address... That address remains to be the same as mine...

I hope this information will help you to determine that Kevin is a home town Veteran of the Gulf War..and has earned the right to have his named on the plaques on Memorial Hill...

When he was in the Middle East he served with the 388th Fighter Wing Squad from Hill Air Force Base...

Sincerely,
Carol Huggard

Kevin V. Cannon

Hometown News

Airman Kevin V. Cannon, son of Kenneth V. Cannon of 3592 South 3400 West, West Valley City, Utah, and Carol A. Huggard of 145 E. Main St., Midway, Utah, has graduated from Air Force basic training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.

During the six weeks of training the airman studied the Air Force mission, organization and customs and received special training in human relations.

In addition, airmen who complete basic training earn credits toward an associate degree through the community college of the Air Force.

His wife, Rebecca, is the daughter of Joe Brinkerhoff of 3566 South 3400 West, West Valley City.

He is a 1985 graduate of Wasatch High School, Heber, Utah.

PS/ my husband Don Huggard & myself are very proud of Kevin and his accomplishments

Airman Receives Commendation Medal

Airman Scott A. Barber

Senior Airman Scott A. Barber, son of Bill and Janice Barber, of Daniels, was awarded the U.S. Air Forces Commendation medal with valor on Jan. 16 for distinguishing himself by an act of courage.

Even though injured by the terrorist bombing at the personnel housing in Dhahron, Saudi Arabia, Scott immediately secured a weapon and lead other airmen in defending and securing the southern and eastern perimeters. After posting his men and with the threat of another attack, he displayed courageous humanitarian regard for his fellowmen during recovery operations. There is much more that could be told of the intensity of the situation he was in, but it should be noted that the Air Force rarely awards this type of medal to SPs in the Air Force except for exceptional heroic acts.

Scott was a student at Wasatch High School, later married Chalene Weber. He is also a veteran of Desert Storm. He and Chalene are deeply committed to their four children and are active members of the LDS Church. 1-24-97